

Cont. 207,454

PCT/EP2004/013390

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT**I. Basis of the Report**

This report has been drawn on the basis of (substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to invitation under Article 14 are referred in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments):

Description, pages

1-6 as originally filed

Claims, Nos.

1-5 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheet

1/3 – 3/3 as originally filed

V. Reasoned Statement under Article 35(2) with Regard to Novelty, Inventive Step and Industrial Applicability; citations and explanation supporting such statement.

1. Statement

Novelty Claims 1-5 Yes

Industrial Applicability Claims 1-5 Yes

2. Citation and Explanations

See attachment

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(ATTACHMENT)

To Paragraph V

V.1. In the subject Report, reference is made to the following document:

D1 : DE 19 02 894 A1 (SIEMAG SIEGENER MASCHINENBAH GmbH)
July 23, 1970 (1970-07-23).

V.2. The subject matter of **CLAIM 1** is new (Article 33(2) PCT):

V.2.1. Document D1 is considered as the closest state of the art. It discloses:

A torque support on oil collecting receptacles (24) in the region of a paired connection of spindle heads (6) and roll necks (W) in rolling mill stands during adjustment both in vertical and axial direction, with a respective attachment point on both upper and lower oil collecting receptacles (7).

V.2.2. The subject matter of the independent **CLAIM 1** distinguishes from that of the torque support known from **D1** in that:

a one-piece strip having, in particular, a rectangular cross-section and formed of flection-resistant material, is pivotally connected at an upper end with the upper oil collecting receptacle in a vertical plane by an articulated joint and, in a region of its lower end, is slidably guided in the pendulum plane in formlockingly compatible opening of a guide link member so that the distance and the inclination angle change.

V.3 The solution, which is suggested in **CLAIM 1** of the foregoing application relates to an inventive activity for following reasons (Article 33(3) PCT):

V.3.1 The feature of **CLAIM 1** can eliminate a heavy toggle lever which consist of several separate parts and enables movement of the oil receptacle in axial and vertical direction.

V.3.3. The object of the foregoing invention can be seen in the simplification of the device and in the entire construction being less susceptible to oscillations.

V.3.4. With reference to document **D1**, this object is achieved by the inventive torque support in a non-obvious manner.

V.4. The dependent **CLAIMS 2 through 5** develop the subject matter further and, thus, likewise meet the requirements of PCT with regard to novelty and inventive step (Article 33(2)(3) PCT).

V.5. The subject matter of **CLAIMS 1 through 5** is undoubtedly industrially applicable (Article 33(4) PCT).